

Appl. No. : 10/622,127
Filed : July 17, 2003

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed July 25, 2005, Applicant respectfully submits the above amendments and comments in connection with the above-captioned application.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant acknowledges the withdrawal of Claims 15-22 and 24-28. In this amendment, withdrawn Claims 15-22 and 24-28 have been canceled without prejudice.

Specification

The Abstract has been amended to correct the informality noted by the Examiner. With this amendment, a substitute Abstract is being submitted on a separate sheet.

Matters of form

The dependency in Claims 4 and 5 have been corrected. Claim 23 has been canceled. With respect to the Examiner's contention that Claims 4 and 5 "simply recite intended use of the apparatus", Applicant disagrees. These claims are for a substrate processing system that includes a carrier gas source and a liquid source container. Claim 4 states that the liquid source container contains liquid trisilane. This is not claiming an intended use but is instead claiming container with a specific liquid inside of the container. The liquid trisilane is thus positively claimed. This claim language can be contrasted with stereotypical intended use language, such as, for example "a container for." In a similar manner, Claim 5 recites that the carrier gas source contains hydrogen. Thus, the hydrogen is positively claimed.

Allowed Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that Claims 11-13 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Because, as explained below, Applicant believes that these claims depend upon an allowable independent claim, Applicant has elected not to rewrite these claims into independent form at this time.

Claim Rejections – §102

Claims 1, 4-8, 14 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Tompkins (USPN 6,561,498).

In rejecting these claims, the Examiner relies on the following passage in Tompkins

The bubbler container 30 including the side wall 32, bottom 33 and top 34, the inlet fittings 39 and the interior components of

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the bubbler 31 are composed of a high purity, corrosion resistive material(s), such as stainless steel, quartz, a fluoropolymer, or the like. Welded stainless steel, e.g., 316L stainless steel, is a particularly preferred material for the bubbler 31. A carrier gas enters the bubbler 31 at a controlled mass flow rate through a gas inlet fitting 39, and flows directly into an enclosed distribution plenum 10 comprised of a plenum cap 11 and plenum base 12 which defines a plenum volume.

Claim 1 recites, in part, a transition piece “having a first surface made from the first material and a second surface made from a second material that is ferric; wherein a connection between the vaporization chamber and at least one of the gas line, the supply line and the feed line extends from the first surface to the second surface and through the body of the vaporization chamber to the cavity, the connection including a connector that is attached to the second surface of the transition piece.”

In contrast, Tompkins merely disclosed a container in which the bubbler 31 is preferably made of stainless steel while the bubbler container 30 including the side wall 32, bottom 33 and top 34, the inlet fittings 39 and the interior components of the bubbler 31 are composed of a high purity, corrosion resistive material(s), such as stainless steel, quartz, a fluoropolymer, or the like. Thus, at the most, Tompkins discloses an arrangement where the bubbler is made of a first material and the bubbler container, fittings and interior are made of a second, corrosion resistive material, which can be stainless steel in one embodiment. That is, Tompkins merely discloses a bubbler with components made of two materials. However, there is no disclosure in Tompkins of a transition piece having a first surface made from a first, non-ferric, material and a second surface made from a second, ferric, material. Tompkins also does not disclose a connection between the vaporization chamber and at least one of the gas line, the supply line and the feed line extends from the first surface to the second surface and through the body of the vaporization chamber to the cavity. Nor does Tompkins disclose that the connection includes a connector that is attached to the second, ferric surface of the transition piece. In particular, while Tompkins discloses that the bubbler 30 can be made of stainless steel and that the internal components and fittings can be made of different a corrosive resistive material. Tompkins does not disclose that the internal components and fittings should be made of different materials.

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For at least this reason, independent Claim 1 and dependent Claims 4-8, 14 and 23 are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections – §103(a)

Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over by Tompkins in view of “applicant’s own admission of prior art.” Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under §103(a) as unpatentable over by Tompkins in view of Ameen et al. (USPN 5,834,371).

As noted above, Tompkins does not disclose all of the features recited in independent Claim 1. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that Claims 9 and 10 are in condition for allowance.

With respect to Claims 2 and 3, Ameed merely disclosed a mixing chamber 30 with a stainless steel top 39. However, there is no disclosure in Ameed of a transition piece having a first surface made from a first, non-ferric, material and a second surface made from a second, ferric, material. Ameed also does not disclose a connection between the vaporization chamber and at least one of the gas line, the supply line and the feed line extends from the first surface to the second surface and through the body of the vaporization chamber to the cavity. Nor does Ameed disclose that the connection includes a connector that is attached to the second, ferric surface of the transition piece. Ameed also does not disclose that the internal components and fittings should be made of different materials. For at least this reason, Applicant submits that Claims 2 and 3 are also in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims and specification. Accordingly, early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is most earnestly solicited.

The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to all of the rejections in the case and to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's attorney in order to resolve such issue promptly.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

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Respectfully submitted,

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